IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 1, 3, 5-8, 13-15 and 17-25 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the recited subject matter.

For the Examiner's convenience, all claims currently pending in this application have been reproduced below:

1-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) A laser oscillation apparatus comprising:

wavelength change means for driving a wavelength selection element and changing an oscillation wavelength of a laser beam to a target value;

calculation means for calculating a drift amount of the oscillation wavelength generated immediately after oscillation starts; and

a controller for determining whether an idle time for stopping an oscillation exceeds a predetermined value,

wherein, when the idle time does not exceed the predetermined value, said controller controls said wavelength change means on the basis of the calculated drift amount so as to have the oscillation wavelength be the target value, and causes said wavelength change means to oscillate the laser beam without emitting a test laser beam to output the laser beam externally of the apparatus.

35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 34, further comprising a shutter, wherein said controller closes the shutter when the idle time exceeds the predetermined value.

36. (Previously Presented) An exposure apparatus using a laser oscillation apparatus as a light source, wherein the laser oscillation apparatus comprises:

wavelength change means for driving a wavelength selection element and changing an oscillation wavelength of a laser beam to a target value;

calculation means for calculating a drift amount of the oscillation wavelength generated immediately after oscillation starts; and

a controller for determining whether an idle time for stopping an oscillation exceeds a predetermined value,

wherein, when the idle time does not exceed the predetermined value, said controller controls said wavelength change means on the basis of the calculated drift amount so as to have the oscillation wavelength be the target value, and causes said laser oscillation apparatus to oscillate the laser beam for exposing the substrate without emitting a test laser beam.